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*Mitchell County...*

### **GDOT Quick Response Project Improves Drainage in Camilla**

CAMILLA, Ga. – A rainy day used to mean trouble in Camilla, where storm water would fill dirt ditches south of state Route 37/West Broad Street, but drainage improvements made possible through a Georgia DOT project have alleviated the problem.

The \$72,000 Quick Response Project included installing concrete ditch paving, removing and replacing sections of settled concrete pipe, extending a line of pipe and constructing a headwall, which keeps the end of a ditch from caving in. The project began at South Butler Street and ended at MacDonald Street. Work began Jan. 20 and was recently completed by Reeves Construction Co.

“What we had was two or three barely deep dirt ditches connected by culverts under a couple of streets. When it rained the ditches filled up and the pipes were full of dirt,” City Utilities Director Larry Crumb said. Erosion was also a problem. “We couldn’t get the storm water to drain off the way it should and because there were just dirt walls for the ditch, they had walls wash in,” he said. The standing water offered a breeding ground for mosquitoes.

Since completion of the project, storm water drains off the way it’s supposed to and the ditches don’t fill up, Crumb said. It is a project the city would not have been able to afford. GDOT was “very good about coming in and taking care of this problem and I think the end result is very nice,” Crumb said.

Quick Response Projects typically cost less than \$200,000 and can be completed in a short period of time. The money comes from the state motor fuel tax and is primarily used for small projects on the state route system. Projects are identified by Georgia DOT engineers or city and county staff and are managed through the Office of Local Grants.

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FYA will now be Georgia DOT's preferred left turn traffic signal for eligible locations – those with high numbers of left-turn movements and resultant traffic back-ups and related accidents. In addition to the Georgia DOT locations, cities and counties throughout the state will identify eligible locations and apply to the Department for permits for the new traffic signals.

During heavy traffic volume the traffic signal may skip the flashing yellow phase to increase safety at the intersection. It is important that drivers not try to anticipate what the traffic signal is about to do; just “drive and obey the signal.”

If the traffic signal has a malfunction the left turn will flash red. As with all signalized intersections, a flashing red is treated as a stop condition and flashing yellow is treated as proceed with caution. If all indications at an intersection are flashing red or the intersection is dark it should be treated as a four-way stop.

The Quick Fix initiative delivers low-cost, high-yield projects that offer immediate benefit to communities and their citizens, such as adding turn lanes, widening roadways, intersection upgrades, etc.

*Each day, hundreds of Georgia Department of Transportation employees and contractors work on dozens of highway, bridge and intersection improvements throughout the state. Their work often brings them and heavy machinery in close proximity to travel lanes. Fifty-seven Georgia DOT personnel and many more motorists, passengers and contractors' workers have been killed in highway work zone accidents since 1973. Please help us prevent these tragedies by slowing down; being especially attentive and cautious as you pass through construction work zones; and always driving responsibly. Safer Driving; Safer Work Zones; For Everyone. For more information on Georgia DOT, please visit [www.dot.ga.gov](http://www.dot.ga.gov) or subscribe to our Press Release [RSS feed](#). You also may follow us on [Facebook](#) (<https://www.facebook.com/GDOTNE>) and [Twitter](#) (<https://twitter.com/GDOTNE>).*

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